

The Historie of

Princ. How shall we part with them in setting forth?

Po. Why, we will set forth before or after them, and appoint them a place of meeting, wherein it is at our pleasure to faile; & then will they aduenture vpon the exploit themseues, which they shall haue no sooner atchieued, but weeleset vpon the.

Prin. Yea, but tis like that they will know vs by our horses, by our habits, and by euery other appointment, to be our selues.

Po. Tut, our horses they shal not see, jle tie the in the wood, our vizard we wil change, after we leaue them: & sirra, I haue cases of buckorum for the nonce, to immaske out noted outward garments.

Prin. Yea, but I doubt they wil be too hard for vs.

Po. Wel, for two of them I know to be as true bred cowards as euer turnd back: and for the third, if he fight longer then he sees reason, Ile forswear armes. The vertue of this iest wil be, the incomprehensible lies that this fat rogue will tell vs when we meete at supper, how thirty at least he fought with, what wards, what blowes, what extremities he indured, and in the reproofe of these lies the iest.

Princ. Wel, Ile goe with thee, prouide vs al things necessary, and meete me to morrow night in Eastcheape, there jle suppe farewell.

Poy. Farewell my Lord. *Exit Poynts.*

Prince. I know you all, and will a while vphold
The vnyokt humor of your idlenesse
Yet heerein will I immitate the Sunne,
Who doth permit the base contagious clouds
To smoothe vp his beauty from the world,
That when he please againe to be himselfe,
Being wanted, he may be more wonderd at
By breaking through the foule and vgly mists
Of vapours that did seeme to strangle him.
If all the yeare were playing holy daies,
To sport would be as tedious as to worke;
But when they seldome come, they wisht for come,
And nothing pleaseth but rare accidents:
So when this loose behaiour I throw off,
And pay the debt I neuer promised,

By

Henry the Fourth.

By how much better then my word I am,
By so much shall I falsifie mens hopes,
And like bright mettall on a sullin ground,
My reformation glittering or'e my fault,
Shall shew more goodly, and attract more eyes
Then that which hath no soile to set it off.
Ile so offend, to make offence a skill,
Redeeming time, when men thinke least I will.

Enter the King, Northumberland, Worcester, H.
Sir Walter Blunt, with others.

King. My blood hath beene too cold and te
Vnapt to stirre at these indignities,
And you haue found me; for accordingly,
You tread vpon my patience: but be sure
I will from henceforth rather be my selfe,
Mighty, and to be feard, then my condition
Which hath beene smooth as oyle; soft as yor
And therefore lost that Title of respect,
Which the proud soule ne're payes but to the

Wor. Our house (my soueraigne Liege) littl
The scourge of greatnesse to bevsd on it,
And that same greatnesse too, which our owne
Haue holpe to make so portly. *Nor. I*

King. Worcester get thee gone, for I do see
Danger and disobedience in thine eye,
O sir your presence is too bold and peremptor
And Maiestie might neuer yet endure
The moody frontier of a seruants brow,
You haue good leaue to leaue vs: when we ne
Your vse and counsell, we shall send for you.
You were about to speake.

North. Yea my good Lord.
Those prisoners in your highnes name demar
Which Harry Percy here at *Hosmeden* tooke,
Where as he sayes, not with such strength der
As he deliuered to your Maiestie.
Either enuy therefore, or misprision
Is guilty of this fault, and not my sonne.

B 2